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for PR

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: )  
DIETER MAUER ET.AL. )  
Serial No. 09/187,358 ) Art Unit: 3652  
Filed: November 6, 1998 ) Examiner: T. Brahan  
For: CONVEYOR FOR ELONGATE ) Docket No. GER-5196  
COMPONENTS DESIGNED WITH A )  
HEAD AND A SHANK )

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RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the **FINAL** rejection as issued in the Office action, dated February 1, 2001, in the above-identified application, please amend this application as indicated below and consider the remarks following thereafter.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 9, line 29, add the following two paragraphs:

B<sub>1</sub> --As shown in Fig. 7, the conveying duct 11 is shaped to be generally complementary to the profile of the component 12. For example, the head guiding duct 13 of the conveying duct 11 is configured to receive, and support, the head 41 of the component 12. The shank guiding duct 14 is configured to receive the shank 42 of the component, with the shank extended, and suspended, into the shank guiding duct.

As shown in Fig. 5, the recess 24 (Fig. 1), which is formed by the facing portions at one end of the positioning segments 9 and 10, has a cross sectional form which substantially corresponds to the cross section of the conveying duct 11 (Fig. 7). Thus, the recess 24 is structured to receive and support the head 41 and the shank 42 of the component 12 in same manner in which the component is supported in the conveying duct 11.--